

Legislative Update

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■-□-■ WEEK IN REVIEW ■-□-■

This Week:

- Week In Review
- Senior Internship Program (SIP)
- In the Legislature

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Department of Elder
Affairs online at
www.state.ia.us/elderaffairs

“Of all the self-fulfilling prophecies in our culture, the assumption that aging means decline and poor health is probably the deadliest.”
- Marilyn Ferguson

Welcome: The Department of Elder Affairs welcomes [Representative Dawn Pettengill](#) to its commission and [Representative Lisa Heddens](#) to the Senior Living Coordinating Unit. Click on their names to access their information on the Iowa Legislature’s webpage.

Budget: The Governor rolled out his budget on January 31st.

- The *Iowa Budget Report, Fiscal Year 2006* may be accessed at: www.dom.state.ia.us/state/budget_proposals/files/FY06_Gov_Report.html
- To access the “*Improve the Health of Iowans Budget Calculator*, with or without the Governor’s proposed \$.80 per pack tobacco increase, please see <http://healthbudget.iowa.gov>.

The department is still in the process of reviewing the documents and discussions of the department budget will be included in this update as the legislative session progresses.

Human Resources Standing Committee(s): A variety of presentations were on the agenda in both the house and the senate this week. On Tuesday, Dr. L. Allen Dobson of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services presented information on North Carolina’s Medicaid reform efforts. Dr. Mary Mincer Hansen, Director of the Iowa Department of Public Health provided an overview to the committee regarding healthy communities in Iowa and the actions the state has implemented to address chronic health conditions.

- A copy Dr. Dobson’s presentation can be found at: http://staffweb.legis.state.ia.us/lsadocs/SC_MaterialsDist/2005/SDSLL001.PDF
- Dr. Hansen’s presentation can be found at: http://staffweb.legis.state.ia.us/lsadocs/SC_MaterialsDist/2005/SDLRB004.PDF

On Wednesday, Kevin Concannon, Director of the Iowa Department of Human Services discussed federal intergovernmental transfers, also known as IGT's. In the fall of 2004, DHS began discussions with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) regarding the likely phase out of IGT's. This issue directly impacts older Iowan's, as the loss of the IGT would be in the neighborhood of 66 million dollars. Add to this sum the 66 and 2/3 percent match by the federal government, and the impact to the state could be over 200 million dollars. The Legislative Service Agency provided legislators with documents related to provider rate history. Those documents are as follows:

- http://staffweb.legis.state.ia.us/lsadocs/SC_MaterialsDist/2005/SDJHV006.PDF
- http://staffweb.legis.state.ia.us/lsadocs/SC_MaterialsDist/2005/SDJHV007.PDF

On Thursday, the House Human Resources Committee met and received an update on the plan by the Department of Public Health to install defibrillators in all public buildings, including the capitol complex.

A number of departmental bills also moved into study committees this week. Those bills, related to substitute decision making, assisted living, elder group homes, and adult day services, are noted below.

Regards,
Joel Wulf
DEA Legislative Liaison

■-□-■ ELDER AFFAIRS FEATURE PROGRAM ■-□-■ Senior Internship Program

The Senior Internship Program or SIP (known nationally as the Senior Community Service Employment Program or SCSEP) is a senior work-training program. The U.S. Department of Labor supervises and funds this important program for older Iowans. SIP helps those in need to re-train for a changing workforce, to find self-confidence, and most importantly, to find a job. This training not only helps the individual but also the community in which they live.

Last Program Year, the Senior Internship Program ranked 5th in the nation for job placements and sixth in the rate served. This is significant considering the challenges presented to the program by the

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reauthorization of Title V in the Older Americans Act. New regulations have defined additional guidelines on who might be served by this program.

Throughout its history SIP/SCSEP has served some of the most disadvantaged older persons in our society. The program targets individuals 55 and over with poverty incomes, limited education attainment and minorities. Seventy five percent of the monies received directly fund the program participants.

To receive the Federal dollars (\$1.2 million), the State needs to provide 10% match funding. The FY05 budget includes an appropriation of approximately \$60,000. The Governor's FY06 proposed budget would fully fund the state match requirement of \$120,000.

Contact Phyllis Anderson, at phyllis.anderson@iowa.gov or 515-242-3323, for additional information.

For more information about SCSEP, or to see an article about one of Iowa's SIP participants, go to the national webpage at www.doleta.gov/seniors/.

■-□-■ IN THE LEGISLATURE ■-□-■

The following is a listing of the bills the department is monitoring. If you would like more information on a particular bill, click on its number and you will be directed to the Iowa General Assembly online bill book.

House Files

[HF 2](#) An Act relating to the phase out of state income tax on pension income and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways & Means) Committee Members: Boal (C), Huser, Shoultz, Soderberg and Struyk.

[HF 12](#) A bill for an act relating to the reimbursement for services provided under a medical assistance home and community-based services waiver for the elderly. (Human Resources) Committee members: Wilderdyke (C), Carroll, Heddens

For more information,
the Iowa Legislature
General Assembly
homepage is
www.legis.state.ia.us



House Files *continued*

[HF 20](#) A bill for an act relating to the amount of personal needs allowance for residents of nursing facilities under the medical assistance program. (Human Resources) Committee members: Carroll (C), Petersen, Wilderdyke

[HF 22](#) A bill for an act relating to establishing standardized requirements for long-term care insurance policies. (Commerce)

[HF 24](#) A bill for an act relating to a phase-out of the state income taxation of social security benefits and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways & Means) Committee members: Boal (C), Huser, Shoultz, Soderberg, Struyk

[HF 26](#) A bill for an act phasing out the state income tax on social security benefits and on pension and retirement income and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways & Means) Committee members: Boal (C), Huser, Shoultz, Soderberg, Struyk

[HF 39](#) A bill for an act relating to enhancing the criminal penalty for offenses against a person sixty-five years of age or older. (Public Safety) Committee members: Rayhons (C), R. Olson, Van Engelenhoven

[HF 46](#) A bill for an act increasing the personal needs allowance for residents of nursing facilities under the medical assistance program. (Human Resources) Committee members: Wilderdyke (C), Carroll, Peterson

[HF 59](#) An Act providing for the determination of partisan balance on boards and commissions and including an applicability provision. (State Government) Committee members: Roberts (C), Jochum, Raecker

[HF 64](#) An Act relating to mandated coverage for mental health conditions, including substance abuse treatment services. (Human Resources)

[HF 69](#) An Act relating to the calculation of the amount of social security benefits received that are subject to individual income tax and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Ways & Means)

House Files *continued*

[HF 87](#) A bill for an act relating to veterans, concerning employment preference and other related benefits. (State Government) Committee members: Jones, Greiner, Paulsen, Quirk and Whitead.

[HF 89](#) A bill for an act relating to third-party payment of health care coverage costs for mental health conditions, including alcohol or substance abuse treatment services. (Commerce)

[HF 109](#) A bill for an act concerning the determination of partisan balance on boards and commissions. (State Government) Committee members: Roberts, Jochum and Raecker

[HF 112](#) An Act concerning the use of moneys appropriated but unexpended for certain vacant state employee positions. (State Government) Committee members: Roberts, Bukta, Lensing, Paulsen, Raecker, T. Taylor

[HF 119](#) A bill for an act providing an appropriation for the older Iowans legislature. (Appropriations)

[HF 120](#) A bill for an act relating to substitute decision making and guardians and conservators, providing for the collection and appropriation of fees, and making an appropriation. (Human Resources) Committee members: Tomenga, Kurtenbach and Smith

[HF 140](#) A bill for an act relating to the senior living trust fund, providing for appropriation of the moneys in the fund, and providing for a repeal. (Human Resources) Committee members: Heaton (C), Carroll, Foege

[HF 152](#) A bill for an act relating to fair market drug pricing. (Human Resources)

[HF 156](#) An Act relating to dependent adult abuse and providing criminal penalties. (Public Safety) Committee members: De Boef (C), Heddens and Rayhons

[HF 157](#) An Act relating to dependent adult abuse and providing penalties. (Public Safety) Committee members: De Boef (C), Heddens and Rayhons

House Files *continued*

[HF 177](#) An Act providing for the length of term for legislative appointments to appointed boards and commissions and providing an effective and applicability date. (Administration and Rules)

Senate Files

[SF 3](#) An Act relating to payment of health care coverage costs for state employees for biologically based mental illness treatment services. (Commerce) Bolkcom and Iverson (C); McCoy and Wieck

[SF 5](#) An Act to require state agencies to accept public comments on proposed rulemaking in an electronic format. (State Government) Committee members: Connolly and Ward (C); Black and Kettering.

[SF 15](#) A bill for an act relating to the amount of personal needs allowance for residents of nursing facilities under the medical assistance program. (Human Resources) Committee members: Bolkcom & Johnson (C), Behn, Kreiman

[SF 16](#) A bill for an act relating to the reimbursement for services provided under a medical assistance home and community based services waiver for the elderly. (Human Resources) Committee members: Boettger & Bolkcom (C), Johnson, Kreiman

[SF 19](#) A bill for an act relating to establishing standardized requirements for long-term care insurance policies. (Commerce) Committee members: Bolkcom and Wieck (C); Courtney and McKinley.

[SF 29](#) A bill for an act relating to the senior living trust fund, providing for appropriation of the moneys in the fund, and providing for a repeal. (Appropriations) Committee members: Angelo and Dvorsky (C)

[SF 30](#) An Act allocating funding appropriated to assist individuals assigned to active duty military service and providing effective and applicability date provisions. (Appropriations) Committee members: Miller and Warnstadt (C); Lamberti and Ragan

[SF 34](#) An Act providing an appropriation for the older Iowans legislature. (Appropriations) Committee members: Angelo and Dvorsky (C)

Senate Files *continued*

[SF 48](#) A bill for an act relating to third-party payment of health care coverage costs for mental health conditions, and including substance and alcohol abuse treatment services. (Commerce) Committee members: Beall & Iverson (C), Bolkcom, McKinley

[SF 61](#) A bill for an act requiring the department of human services to report annually concerning the costs and benefits of various contracted services under the medical assistance program. (Human Resources)

[SF 64](#) A bill for an act relating to the use of marijuana for therapeutic purposes and establishing a marijuana therapeutic research program. (Judiciary) Committee members: Kreiman & Tinsman (C), Dvorsky, Ward

[SF 66](#) A bill for an act requiring periodic review of administrative rules by administrative agencies. (State Government) Committee members: Brunkhorst, Kibbie (C), Connolly, and Kettering

[SF 67](#) A bill for an act relating to requests for a regulatory analysis of administrative rules. (State Government) Committee members: Brunkhorst, Kibbie (C), Connolly, and Kettering

[SF 69](#) A bill for an act relating to wage discrimination by providing for the determination of wage discrimination, applicable remedies, and providing an effective date. (Business and Labor Relations)

[SF 86](#) An Act providing for negotiated rulemaking. (State Government) Kibbie and Ward (C), Connolly, Kettering

[SF 93](#) An Act reducing the amounts of pension income and social security benefits that are taxable by the state and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Ways and Means)

Study Bills

[HSB 10](#) An Act relating to certain penalties for filing false affidavits under the state inheritance tax and increasing the amount of property that may be transferred to minors under certain conditions and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Judiciary) Committee members: Kaufman (C), Swaim, Tymeson

Study Bills *continued*

[HSB 22](#) An Act relating to the compensation of podiatrists under group health insurance policies or health maintenance organization contracts. (Human Resources) Committee members: Wilderdyke (C), Berry, Tomenga

[HSB 52](#) An Act allowing the exclusion of mandated health care benefit coverage in certain health insurance policies or contracts. (Commerce) Committee members: Hoffman (C), Horbach, Olson

[HSB 59](#) An Act relating to meetings of governmental bodies. (State Government) Committee members: Boal (C), Hutter, Whitead

[HSB 95](#) An Act relating to assisted living programs, providing for application of a penalty, and providing for a fee. (Human Resources) Committee members: Upmeyer(C), Jacoby, Wilderdyke

[HSB 96](#) An Act relating to substitute decision making and guardians and conservators, providing for the collection and appropriation of fees, and making an appropriation. (Human Resources) Committee members: Tomenga (C), Kurtenbach, Smith

[HSB 98](#) An Act relating to health care facility violations and penalties for such violations. (Human Resources) Committee members: Wilderdyke (C), Carroll, Smith

[HSB 100](#) An Act relating to the membership of the council with which the director of human services consults regarding the medical assistance program. (Human Resources) Committee members: Tomenga (C),Heaton, Wendt

[HSB 101](#) An Act relating to the regulation of elder group homes and providing penalties. (Human Resources) Committee members: Upmeyer (C), Freeman, Hunter

[HSB 102](#) An Act relating to adult day services regulation and providing penalties. (Human Resources) Committee members: Upmeyer (C), Hunter, Roberts

[HSB 103](#) An Act relating to the Iowa commission on volunteer service. (Human Resources) Committee members: Freeman (C), Hunter, Roberts

Study Bills *continued*

[HSB 110](#) An Act relating to the creation of a task force to provide for the implementation of Medicare Part D and providing an effective date. (Human Resources) Committee members: Upmeyer (C), Foege, Granzow, Heaton, Jacoby, Roberts, Smith

[HSB 117](#) An Act relating to third-party payment of health care coverage costs for biologically based mental illness treatment services. (Human Resources) Committee members: Carroll (C), Smith, Wilderdyke

[HSB 124](#) An Act relating to a nursing facility quality assurance assessment, providing a contingent effective date, providing for retroactive applicability, and providing an effective date. (Human Resources) Committee members: Carroll (C), Foege, Heaton, Smith, Upmeyer

[SSB 1004](#) An Act relating to certain penalties for filing false affidavits under the state inheritance tax and increasing the amount of property that may be transferred to minors under certain conditions and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Judiciary) Committee members: Kreiman & Mckibben (C), Boettger, Hancock

[SSB 1037](#) An Act relating to appropriation matters by making, increasing, and reducing appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004, and providing effective and applicability date provisions. Committee members: Angelo & Dvorsky (C), Hatch, Lamberti, Tinsman, Warnstadt

[SSB 1041](#) An Act relating to the provision under a group health insurance policy or health maintenance organization contract for compensation of podiatrists. (Human Resources) Dotzler and Seymour (C); Gaskill, Wood

[SSB 1042](#) An Act relating to the membership of the council with which the director of human services consults regarding the medical assistance program. (Human Resources) Boettger & Bolkcom (C); Gaskill, Quirnbach

Study Bills *continued*

[SSB 1043](#) An Act relating to health care facility violations and penalties for such violations. (Human Resources) Committee members: Dolzer & Johnson (C), Houser, Wood

Pre-Filed Bills

Housing Assistance & Improvement Funds
Iowa Finance Authority

■-□-■ **DISCLAIMER** ■-□-■

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The Legislative Update is distributed electronically during the legislative session by the Iowa Department of Elder Affairs for informational purposes only. Recipients of this update are encouraged to share it with others.

The current issue can also be found on the department's webpage, www.state.ia.us/elderaffairs/, under the "What's New at DEA" heading. Past issues are archived in the "Publications/Information" section.

If you are interested in receiving or discontinuing the legislative updates, contact Erin Haafke by email at erin.haafke@iowa.gov.

Our Mission:

To provide advocacy, educational, and prevention services to older Iowans so they can find Iowa a healthy, safe, productive, and enjoyable place to live and work.

